

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION GATHERED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE WOMEN CONCERNING THE
FORMER SPOUSES OF CIA OVERSEAS OFFICERS
OMITTED FROM COVERAGE BY 1982 ACT

Telephone conc

Telephone conversations, meetings, and letters, as well as surveys compiled by the Association of American Foreign Service Women, have provided information on 45 former CIA spouses. Specific information about 40 is included in the survey summarized below. The information received about the other five women was too fragmentary to be of value.

The profile of the typical woman in the excluded group, as determined above, is as follows:

She is now: 54 years old. She was
50 at the time of divorce (range 37-62).
She had been married
26 years to her CIA husband (range d
12 to 40 years). She had spent
23 years of her marriage with CIA,
14 of these years abroad.
At the time of divorce, she had two school-age (college)
children still at home.

For nearly all of the women who responded, financial prospects are bleak. Of the 40 responses compiled:

15 reported that they receive alimony, but only
2 said the amount was enough to live on.
35 are working to make ends meet.

Of the 35 who are working:

7 are employed in their profession.
4 have a good or fairly good chance for advancement.
23 have little chance for advancement.
7 have career opportunities but are too old for
a career.
6 report their employment is secure, while
15 report they have insecure or irregular employment. And
2 are looking for work.
17 are earning Social Security credits;
13 are not.

Of the 40 respondents compiled:

10 will receive Social Security through their
husbands.
26 will not; and
4 do not know if they will or not.

For the future;

27 anticipate that they will have to work always.
8 will require welfare.
2 will be able to retire if they get help from
family and friends.
4 do not need to work.
4 cannot work because they are too old or ill.

The husbands of these women, had served an average of

24 years in the CIA.
31 were still working--in CIA or at another job.
10 had remarried. (Only two of the responding
women reported having remarried.)
2 have died.